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| PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) FY 2005 (fees effective on or after October 1, 2004) | | Docket Number (Optional) 331.1045 |
| Application Number 10/620,482 | | Filed July 16, 2003 |
| For COUPLING | | |
| Art Unit 3679 | | Examiner BINDA |

This is a request under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a reply in the above identified application.

The requested extension and fee are as follows (check time period desired and enter the appropriate fee below):

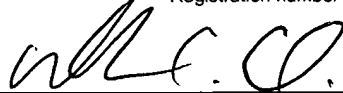
| | <u>Fee</u> | <u>Small Entity Fee</u> | |
|---|------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One month (37 CFR 1.17(a)(1)) | \$120 | \$60 | <u>\$120</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(2)) | \$450 | \$225 | \$_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Three months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(3)) | \$1020 | \$510 | \$_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Four months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(4)) | \$1590 | \$795 | \$_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Five months (37 CFR 1.17(a)(5)) | \$2160 | \$1080 | \$_____ |

- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. 12/14/2004 HLE333 00000010 10620482
- ☒ A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed. 02 FC:1251 120.00 DP
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-0552. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

- I am the ☐ applicant/inventor.
- ☐ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71
- Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).
- ☒ attorney or agent of record. Registration Number 38,156
- ☐ attorney or agent under 37 CFR 1.34.

Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34. _____



Signature
William C. Gehris

Typed or printed name

December 9, 2004

Date
(212) 736-1940

Telephone Number

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☒ Total of 1 forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136(a). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.